

RECOGNIZING FAIRFAX COUNTY
PARK AUTHORITY'S RECEIPT OF
THE GOLD MEDAL AWARD

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fairfax County Park Authority of their receipt of the 2010 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management. This prestigious award is the park and recreation industry's highest honor.

The Fairfax County Park Authority was commended for its outstanding performance in all categories. The American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, in partnership with the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), presented the award to the Fairfax County Park Authority at the NRPA Annual Congress & Exposition in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Now a three-time Gold Medal Award recipient and a finalist for several years, the Fairfax County Park Authority has demonstrated excellence in long-range planning, resource management, volunteerism, environmental stewardship, program development, professional development, and agency recognition.

The Fairfax County Park Authority serves a population of more than one million residents, which places the Park Authority in the Class I category, the tier for park agencies that serve a population of 250,000 and over. The Park Authority hosts a myriad of annual events, and operates indoor and outdoor athletic and recreation facilities, historic sites, and natural areas.

I would like to commend the Fairfax County Park Authority for the exceptional service it provides to the citizens of Fairfax County and the entire Commonwealth. Their hard work and dedication has improved the quality of life for so many.

REV. DR. ANTHONY M. GRAHAM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Rev. Dr. Anthony M. Graham.

At the age of twelve, Anthony Graham was inspired to join the ministry. It was at that time that he began preaching in his local assembly. At the age of seventeen, he graduated from Andrew Jackson High School and entered the United States Army. After six years in the military, serving in Washington State and Korea; he enrolled in York College, where he met his lovely wife Leslie-Ann. They have been married for 20 years with three children, Amara, Anthony Jr, and Amira. Dr. Graham is listed in Who's Who in American Universities & Colleges. He graduated with a B.S. in accounting from York College, a M.B.A. from St. John's University, a Doctor of Ministry from Bakke Graduate University and a PhD from Georgetown Wesleyan University.

Dr. Graham, who was selected as the Claude A. Ries Pastor of the Year for 2005 by Houghton College, is a tenured High School teacher in the New York Public School Sys-

tem. He is an accomplished pastor, teacher, and conference speaker.

Dr. Graham serves as Senior pastor of the New Hope Family Worship Center, an inner-city multicultural ministry. This church was planted twenty years ago and started with twelve members. It now has a weekly average attendance of 500 people. New Hope has several ministries, including an after-school program, computer literacy program, G.E.D. program, compassion Ministries (providing food and clothing to the needy).

In his district he is also recognized as a leader. He was elected on four occasions as a delegate to General Conference for his district, has served as Chairman of the Metropolitan Zone for five years and has been a member of the District Board of Administration for fourteen years. He has traveled and ministered in several parts of the world, including Australia, Barbados, Canada, China, Colombia South America, England, Guyana, Jamaica, India, Korea, Russia, St. Thomas, Trinidad & Tobago, and in many parts of the United States. He frequently ministers in the areas of revival, Christian development, financial stewardship, team building and principles for success in life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Rev. Dr. Anthony M. Graham.

HONORING THE LATE LAURENCE
BUTLER "LARRY" DILLARD

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Laurence Butler "Larry" Dillard, my longtime Communications Director, trusted advisor and childhood friend. Larry passed away unexpectedly on April 20, 2011.

Larry was born on June 8, 1951 in Newport News, Virginia. He attended Hampton High School and Hampton Institute (now Hampton University). He went on to earn his degree in Mass Communications from Virginia Commonwealth University, where he became the proud charter member of the Eta Xi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

I have known Larry since Little League Baseball. We grew up in St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Newport News and he later covered me as a reporter for WRIC-Channel 8 in Richmond when I served in the Virginia House of Delegates.

A decade before joining my congressional office in Washington, Larry's first stint on Capitol Hill was with another Virginian, Republican Congressman Tom Bliley of Richmond. A few years later, Larry worked for the Republican National Committee and Senator John Warner's reelection campaign.

Larry must have had a political change of heart or he simply wanted to help an old friend because he joined my campaign staff in when I first ran for Congress in 1992. After the election, he joined my congressional office and became one of my most trusted advisors, Communications Director, and Capitol Hill scheduler. For eighteen and a half years, the many people who have interacted with my office got to know Larry very well. He made every visitor

feel as if they were the most important person to ever visit my office, especially the shipbuilders. As one of several members of his family who worked at the Newport News Shipyard, he was always a perfect host for shipyard workers when they visited Washington. Additionally, Larry was affectionately known as the "Mayor of Capitol Hill." From congressional staff to Members of Congress to the many support personnel on Capitol Hill, everyone came to know and love Larry because Larry truly cared about them. Hundreds of Hill staff and young people have been touched by Larry's mentorship and advice. He embodied the true meaning of a Virginia gentleman.

Larry helped me accomplish a lot for my constituents and his fellow Virginians. He helped secure funding for Hampton University's Proton Cancer Center and fought for justice for America's black farmers. He was a historian and was famous for his tours of the Capitol. He was also an enthusiastic advocate for the recognition of the 14 African Americans who were awarded Medals of Honor at New Market Heights in Henrico, Virginia during the Civil War. Larry was also very active with the African American Civil War Memorial and Museum in Washington.

There are no words to describe the profound loss and sorrow that pervades all those who had the good fortune to know Larry. He will be remembered as a tireless worker, devoted friend, brother, father, husband and mentor to many. Larry was a passionate history buff, avid Yankees fan, fountain of knowledge, skillful diplomat and the consummate spokesperson.

Larry passed away doing what he loved the most—touring one of his favorite historic Civil War sites, Fort Monroe. I was on that tour with Senator MARK WARNER. We got the official presentation in the front of bus, but everybody in the back of the bus got the real scoop from Larry Dillard. He will be thought about often and sorely missed.

My deepest sympathies and prayers are with his wife Sherry, his son Brandon, his brother Randy and the entire Dillard family.

INTRODUCING THE POST-DEPLOYMENT
STRATEGY ACT OF 2011

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Post-Deployment Strategy Act of 2011, which would amend the War Powers Resolution to require the President to develop a post-deployment strategy when introducing our United States Armed Forces into combat operations.

Going to war is one of the most important decisions a government can make. From the sheer magnitude of financial burden to the devastating effects of loss of life, war is among our nation's costliest undertaking. This is why it is crucial to develop a set of objectives and a clear plan of action prior to engaging in a conflict. Currently, the President is not required to have such a plan in place before sending our men and women in uniform into combat.

Estimates put the direct and indirect cost of the Iraq War at a staggering \$3 trillion, with

over 4,000 American lives lost and over 33,000 soldiers wounded. Our U.S. debt increased from \$6.4 trillion in March 2003 to \$10 trillion in the pre-financial crisis months of 2008, and the war in Iraq is directly responsible for at least a quarter of that sum. While there are many contrasting perspectives on U.S. involvement in Iraq, all can agree that having established a clear and informed plan for the country's occupation and stabilization prior to the invasion would have helped to decrease the loss of life, injuries as well as the wasteful use of resources.

This legislation will require the President to submit a post-deployment strategy to Congress not later than 48 hours after introducing our military into combat operations. This plan will articulate the interests of the United States, define the goals and objectives of the operation, and lay out a strategy for success.

Establishing a clear and informed plan for a country's occupation prior to introducing Armed Forces will help better allocate resources, and decrease the loss of life and the cost of conflicts. It is crucial to have the tools and resources in place to ensure the stabilization of conflict areas, and the safe return of our troops. It is both unacceptable and irresponsible to send our loved ones to war without a long-term plan of action.

Mr. Speaker, as instability escalates in the Middle East and with U.S. military operations in Libya underway, the need for a clear post-deployment strategy is greater than ever. We owe our soldiers, their families, and the taxpayers clear justification for sending our Armed Forces into combat. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, on June 13, 2011, I missed the following rollcall votes because I was unavoidably detained out of town: rollcall vote No. 413—on agreeing to the LaTourette amendment; rollcall vote No. 414—on agreeing to the Amash amendment; rollcall vote No. 415—on agreeing to the Sherman amendment; and rollcall vote No. 416—on retaining Title II (Department of Veterans Affairs). All of these rollcall votes were on amendments to H.R. 2055, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

If present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall Nos. 413 and 416, and "nay" on rollcall Nos. 414 and 415.

MR. SANTOS CRESPO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Santos Crespo.

Santos Crespo, a Bronx native, started in the labor movement in 1975 when he and other co-workers helped to organize the Sub-stance Abuse Counselors in the New York

City Board of Education. He would be elected shop steward in his district after they became members of the New York City Board of Education Employees Local 372, District Council 37, AFSCME, and served for over 10 years as its Executive Vice President.

Today, he is presently the President of the largest municipal employees union in New York City, District Council 37, AFSCME, and the President of the largest local union within DC 37, representing over 26,000 employees within the New York City Department of Education, Local 372.

Santos is also a founding member and currently the chairperson of the DC 37 Latino Heritage Committee, served for 6 years as President of the New York City Chapter of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA), a member of the New York City Hispanic Labor Committee and he also serves on LCLAA National Executive Board. He is a member of the New York City Chapter of Coalition of Black Trade Unionist (CBTU) and a former Teaching Fellow for the Organizing Institute of the AFL-CIO. Santos has received numerous awards; Humanitarian Assistance Award for his assistance during the recovery efforts at the World Trade Center tragedy, The New York Daily News Viva New York as a 2004 Latino Influential, The New York Dominican Officers Organization for Outstanding Service in the Labor Movement and the New York LCLAA Labor Award, The New York Hispanic Labor Committee Friamberra Labor Award and The New York State Puerto Rican/Hispanic Legislative Task Force Somo El Futuro Labor Award, and the 111th Congress paid tribute to his leadership and commitment in the labor community by entering his accomplishments into the records of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. Crespo's extraordinary achievements

HONORING COLONEL FRANK K. BROOKS' 30 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Colonel Frank K. Brooks for his 30 years of exceptional service and dedication to the United States Air Force. He retired from active duty on May 31, 2011.

Colonel Brooks was born in New Roads, Louisiana. He was commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the Air Force in 1981, upon his graduation from the United States Air Force Academy. In 1982, he completed his Master of Science in Information Systems at Washington University in St. Louis, MO. Following graduate school, his operational assignments included duties as a Computer Program Design Engineer at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois and as the Chief of the Data Systems Branch for the Secretary of the Air Force Special Projects Office.

Over the past two years, Colonel Brooks has served as the Chief Information Officer of Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region, United States Northern Command,

where he was responsible for the coordination of interoperable emergency communications with defense mission partners in the National Capital Region. His efforts have provided for robust and reliable command and control systems to enable defense support to civil authorities. He has integrated cyberspace operations and planning into the JFHQ-NCR mission, making it one of the first domestic commands to integrate full-spectrum information operations in the Air Force. His thoughtful management, aggressive integration of emerging technologies, and active engagement with interagency partners has made the National Capital Region safer and better prepared to respond to any emergency. His adherence to the highest standards of professional conduct is a credit to all that wear the uniform of the United States Air Force.

Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Brooks served as the Deputy Chief, United States Military Training Mission, Riyadh, Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. On behalf of the Department of the Air Force, he managed the exchange of critical military information systems and communications technologies with the military forces of Saudi Arabia.

Colonel Brooks has served in a variety of staff and leadership positions both stateside and overseas. He has served in a variety of operational and staff positions in the communications and space career fields, including one group command, five squadron commands, Secretary of Defense Fellowship (Netscape/AOL), Education with Industry (Boeing), Air Force Communications Agency, National Reconnaissance Office, the Joint Staff and special operations, as well as director of communications and information systems for two major commands.

I would like to give my sincere thanks to Frank, his wife Penelope, and their daughters Lauren and Nicole for their unwavering support of our country and the freedom we hold so dear. We congratulate Colonel Brooks on the completion of an exemplary active-duty career and wish him well in the next phase of his life.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL VOICES FOR EQUALITY EDUCATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary efforts of National Voices for Equality Education and Enlightenment (NVEEE) in providing support services to youth and families affected by bullying, violence, and suicide through preventative education and communication.

Jowharah Sanders, founder of National Voices for Equality Education and Enlightenment; says, "Bullying is not just an action; it is inaction as well". I agree wholeheartedly. Fortunately, Ms. Sanders understands that we will have to work together from the ground up to defeat bullying at every level.

Sanders, a drum major for the voiceless and victimized, founded NVEEE in October 2009. Driven by a personal mission, Sanders sought to help those who have been affected by bullying, violence, victimization, and abuse in